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MaineGeneral
Medical Center

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Division of Licensing and
Regulatory Services

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September 29, 2009

Phyllis Powell, Manager
Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services
Certificate of Need Unit
41 Anthony Avenue
State House Station 11
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

RE: MaineGeneral Medical Center New Regional Hospital and Thayer Campus Comprehensive Outpatient Services Project

Dear Ms. Powell,

This letter of intent is filed on behalf of MaineGeneral Medical Center (MGMC) for the purpose of requesting a ruling from the Department regarding the applicability of the Maine Certificate of Need Act of 2002 to the following proposal.

MGMC proposes to make a capital expenditure of approximately \$322,000,000 to consolidate its inpatient services into one new regional hospital and to renovate portions of its Thayer campus building to house outpatient services currently located in other buildings including those at its Seton campus. The new regional hospital will be located on a parcel of land contiguous to the Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care in Augusta, Maine. At the completion of this project, MGMC will have consolidated its hospital operations from four major campuses to two and reduced its licensed bed complement as a result of bringing on line a facility meeting contemporary standards of hospital design which call for 100 percent private inpatient rooms. The project is designed to make the changes necessary to attract and retain physicians in the midst of a national physician shortage, retain current patterns of access to the majority of health care services which are provided on an outpatient basis for MGMC's service-area population and develop a replacement hospital based on Evidence-Based Design, LEED design and LEAN principles. The third-year incremental operating costs for the project are estimated to be \$35,000,000.

The proposed project does include the acquisition of major movable equipment, as defined in 22 M.R.S.A. 329 (2-A); does not include the provision of any new health services, as defined in 22 M.R.S.A. 329 (4); and will not result in the increase of MGMC's existing licensed-bed complement as defined in 22 M.S.R.A. 329 (5).

MGMC intends to file its application on or before December 22, 2009. We look forward to working with you and your staff to develop an application that complies with the technical and information requirements necessary to allow for a thorough understanding of the project within the context of the CONU review criteria.

Sincerely,

Chuck Hays
President and CEO MaineGeneral Medical Center